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Help us stay in touch

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Furman alumni news

Help us stay in touch

One of the Alumni Office's major goals is to improve communication between Furman and its alumni. Over the last several years we have been working to find more and better ways to maintain contact with our alumni — and to ensure that they are in touch with the latest news about Furman. We are looking for ways to make the process easier and more effective in both directions.

The Furman Web site, www.furman.edu, is a wonderful source of help and information. When you visit the university on-line, you can do a little of everything — order a transcript, register for Homecoming, change your address, or consult the calendar of campus events to find out the latest happenings. We'd like our alumni to check the Web site weekly, or even daily. Please let anyone on the Alumni Office staff know what we can do to make that goal a reality.

At this time Furman has e-mail addresses for approximately 50 percent of our alumni, and we are constantly updating our e-mail list. You can help us out by sending your e-mail address to alumni@furman.edu. Once we have you in our system, you will receive Furman's monthly electronic newsletter, plus frequent announcements and reminders about upcoming Furman events in your area.

We are also working to tailor our messages to specific audiences. As an example, this year we were able to produce separate Homecoming brochures for each of our 12 reunion classes, plus a generic mailer for non-reunion alumni. Our hope was to make



the reunion classes feel more special and make the registration process less confusing.

Methods of communication are changing rapidly, and these days the most effective means of communication is different depending on your generation. For example, many young alumni use only their cell phones and do not have a "land line" — a trend that would have been unheard of just a few years ago.

With this in mind, we have associated with Youralumni.com, a program that will help us develop new features and opportunities that will enable alumni to exchange information and interact with each other and with Furman. Through this program, alumni will be able to maintain a full personal home page, with a photo gallery, blog forum, contact information and class-specific event notifications. This service, combined with our on-line registry, should help us provide alumni with better overall communication. To learn more, visit www.Youralumni.com.

— Tom Triplitt '76

Director, Alumni Association

Photo: The staff of the Alumni Office looks forward to hearing from you. Front, from left: Melanie Krone '94, Tom Triplitt '76, Tina Hayes Ballew '78. Back: Darlene Kleckley, Jane Dungan

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Furman Clubs enjoy busy fall

Furman Clubs cheered on the Paladins with record numbers this fall.

More than 150 people were on hand in Birmingham, Ala., September 11 for a tailgate before the Furman-Samford football game. Two weeks later, a large contingent of Paladin fans gathered in Pittsburgh for several events before the game with the Panthers.

Meanwhile, alumni, parents and friends in central North Carolina did double duty, enjoying a September 24 outing to watch the Lady Paladin soccer team face UNC-Greensboro and an October 23 tailgate before the football game at Elon.

Among other events, the Charlotte (N.C.) Club had the pleasure of meeting with A.V. Huff, Jr., vice president for academic affairs and dean emeritus, who led a tour of the Levine Museum and discussed Charlotte's transformation into the second largest banking center in the United States. The Knoxville (Tenn.) Furman Club welcomed John Barker, director of career services, who reminded everyone that the career services department is available to assist both students and alumni. He encouraged alumni to get involved with Furman through the Career Link program and by speaking with students and alumni about career and employment issues.

The Christmas holidays also brought club gatherings in Charleston, Greenville, Charlotte and Washington, D.C.

To learn more about Furman Club activities, visit www.furman.edu/alumni, or contact Melanie Krone '94 at 1-800-PURPLE3 or by e-mail, melanie.krone@furman.edu.

Furman legacies

You may have heard that a Furman alum's blood "runs purple." This could be attributed to enthusiastic school spirit, a rare blood type or a history of family members who have attended Furman.

Furman takes pride in knowing that many current students' parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings attended Furman. To recognize this connection, the Alumni Association began the year by hosting a drop-in for freshman legacies. More than 50 people attended, some recognizing each other from their days at Furman. Legacies also gathered for a lunch during Family Weekend in October.

This tradition will continue through graduation, when legacies and their families will attend a luncheon with President David Shi. If you or a member of your family is a Furman legacy and you would like more information about these events, please contact the Alumni Association at 1-800-PURPLE3 or by e-mail, tina.ballew@furman.edu.